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The heat's on Kurt

There is a growing likelihood that Congress will force the Reagan administration to get cracking on uncovering the Nazi past of former United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

The key to unraveling the full story on Waldheim lies in documents of the War Crimes Commission that are now under lock and key at the UN. The Reagan administration has yet to make a formal request that the commission's Waldheim file be unsealed.

Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-Brooklyn), who has been pushing the CIA, State Department and other agencies on the issue, said there is clear evidence of the existence of a file on the former UN boss because it is mentioned in the U.S. Army archives dealing with World War II atrocities.

Justice Department officials tried in 1980 to get the file—at the time when allegations about Waldheim's Nazi work first surfaced—but there is a wide-spread suspicion that Waldheim got wind of the attempt and used his clout as secretary general to help defeat it.

Now the case against Waldheim is much stronger. If President Reagan does not act, it is likely that Solarz will seek a congressional resolution demanding that the President seek the documents. In the past, war crimes documents have only been released to national leaders who requested them.

Dollar Bill's 100M switch

Sen. Bill Bradley (D.N.J.) surprised everybody with his vote last week to support President Reagan's request for \$100 million in aid to the rebels in Nicaragua. It was a switch from Bradley's previous stance on the issue. He



Bradley

supported the aid cutoff in 1984 and opposed Reagan-backed plan last year to resume the supply of "humanitarian" aid to the contras. But Bradley savs he came away from a secret trip to Central and South

America last winter with deep concern about the fate of Nicaragua's democratic neighbors in Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador. He has also learned more about Sandinista treacheries from his new post on the Senate Intelligence Committee.

He had kept both Democratic colleagues and the administration guessing about his vote until the last minute and he became the only Democratic presidential prospect who backed the Reagan request. Though Bradley and his aides say politics had nothing to do with his vote, the facts are that it would hurt him in Democratic presidential primaries and help him in a general election if he became the party's nominee.

Reagan aides say they hope to use Bradley's vote to win new support in the House when the issue comes up again on April 15. Bradley's staff insists he can't be used that way because he opposes much of what the administration is doing in Central America—everything except fighting a war by proxy through the contras.